




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-5000

APR 19 2013

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

MEMORANDUM FOR: Sandra B. Henriquez, Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing, P

FROM:  Dominique Blom, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Housing Investments, PI

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Under the National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for FY2013 Notice of Funding Availability for the
Main Street Grant Program (FR-5700-N-23)

It is the finding of this Office that the subject Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) does not constitute a major Federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the physical/human environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

The purpose of this NOFA is to announce the availability of FY2013 funds and to provide program information and application instructions for the Main Street Grant program.

The purpose of the HOPE VI Main Street Program is to provide grants to small communities to assist in the renovation of an historic or traditional central business district or "Main Street" area by replacing unused commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units. The objectives of the program are to redevelop main street areas, preserve the historic or traditional central business district, enhance economic development efforts in main street areas and provide affordable housing in main street areas.

The authority for the HOPE VI Main Street Program is Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v), as amended by Section 535 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Pub.L.105-276, 112 Stat. 2461, approved October 21, 1998); and the HOPE VI Program Reauthorization and Small Community Mainstreet Rejuvenation and Housing Act of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-186, 117 Stat 2685, approved December 16, 2003).

The NOFA provides for environmental review of Main Street projects and activities by HUD under 24 CFR Part 50 for all grantees. Under this NOFA and applicable law, an applicant is prohibited from undertaking any actions that are choice-limiting or could have environmentally adverse effects, including demolishing, acquiring, rehabilitating, converting, leasing, repairing, or constructing property proposed to be assisted under this NOFA or committing or expending HUD or non-HUD funds for such activities, until after HUD has completed the environmental review in accordance with 24 CFR part 50 and given approval for the action. The environmental review may result in requirements for mitigation or remedial measures, or a change in the project site.

This Office finds that issuance of this NOFA will not have a significant effect on the human environment because prior to any grantee's commitment of funds for any activities that would have an environmental impact or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives, an environmental review of these activities under the NEPA and related laws and authorities will be done. Thus, the environmental effects of activities assisted under this NOFA will be taken into account at the appropriate time, and environmental impacts will be assessed in the local setting in which they will occur.

Concurrences:

Linda Bronsdon
PIH Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of Policy, Programs and
Legislative Initiatives

Date: 4.22.13 Sign: Linda Bronsdon

Danielle Schopp
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of Community Planning
and Development

Date: 4.25.13 Sign: Danielle Schopp

Christopher H. Hartenau
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of General Counsel

Date: 4/25/13 Sign: Christopher H. Hartenau

Approval:

Sandra B. Henriquez
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing

Date: 05/02/2013 Sign: Sandra B. Henriquez